

3rd MEETING OF THE LABOUR MARKET EVIDENCE GROUP
Monday 19th January 2026, 14:00 – 16:00
Virtual conference

Attending

Professor Brian Bell (Chair)
Dame Nancy Rothwell
Tom Younger
Phil Smith
Richard Murray
Thomas Nicholls
Victor Dukelow
Holly White
Jonathan Bateman
Supporting Staff for LMEG Members

Agenda Item 1 – Welcome and introductions

Brian Bell opened the meeting and welcomed all attendees.

Agenda Item 2 – Updates

Representatives from all the members shared updates on their work including publishing of labour market insights, advising on Jobs Plans, the MAC Salary Thresholds report and Skills England Occupations in Demand publications.

Agenda Item 3 – DWP analysis and opportunities to support LMEG priorities.

An official from DWP presented provisional analysis on the skills and previous occupations of individuals on Universal Credit. LMEG members suggested further priorities for the work, including identifying the qualifications held by UC claimants.

Agenda Item 4 – LMEG input into the MAC Temporary Shortage List review

A member of the MAC Secretariat provided an update on progress with the Temporary Shortage List (TSL) review, including the role LMEG could play. Members agreed to continue supporting the MAC with the TSL review, particularly on the assessment of Jobs Plans.

Agenda Item 5 – Industrial Strategy Jobs Plans

A representative from Skills England updated LMEG on progress with Industrial Strategy Jobs Plans. LMEG members agreed that they would continue to support the development of Industrial Strategy Jobs Plans and provide early feedback based on submissions to the TSL review.

Agenda Item 6 – Next Steps

LMEG members to continue supporting the MAC with the TSL review and send ministers a letter highlighting first year progress.

Agenda Item 7 – Any Other Business

No substantive items were raised. The MAC will continue to chair up to and including the June meeting. The next meeting is due in April.